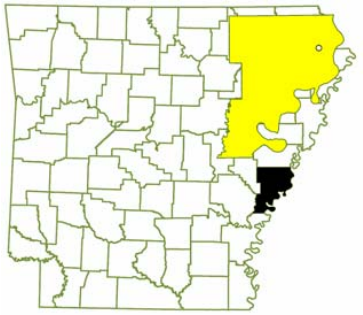
Cedar Chemical

STATE PRIORITY LIST SITE
WEST HELENA, ARKANSAS

ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118



EPA ID No: AR990660649
AFIN: 54-00068
County: Phillips
Arkansas Senate District: 16
Arkansas House District: 13
US Congressional District: 1

Current Status

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has pursued Potential Responsible Parties (PRPs) to conduct the necessary remedial actions and recover Remedial Action Trust Fund expenditures associated with the site investigation and cleanup. ADEQ entered into a Consent Administrative Order (CAO) LIS 07-027 on March 22, 2007 with Ansul Incorporated (formerly known as Wormald US, Inc.), Helena Chemical Company and Exxon Mobil Chemical (a division of Exxon Mobil Corporation). The Respondents to the CAO have developed a Feasibility Study Report proposing remedies for areas of concern (AOCs). The Feasibility Study Report was used to support the development of a Remedial Action Decision Document (RADD). A Draft RADD was published on February 24, 2010. Notice was published in Helena Daily World which allowed a 30 day public comment period. The public comment period closed on March 25, 2010. A public hearing was also held on March 16, 2010 at the UAMS Area Health Education Center in Helena-West Helena. Comments were gathered at the public hearing and from letters written to ADEQ. Based on the comments, revisions to the RADD were made and, where appropriate, reflected in ADEQ Final RADD dated June 3, 2010. Currently, ADEQ is working with potentially responsible parties (PRP's) in developing a new CAO for implementation of the remedies outlined in the final RADD.

State Priority List History

Actions undertaken through the ADEQ initiated the issuance of a CAO to the Cedar Chemical Corporation (before Cedar Chemical Company filed bankruptcy) to address remediation of the site. These activities were not completed due to the bankruptcy and abandonment of the site. Therefore, the ADEQ placed the site on the State Priority List of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Regulation No. 30 in October 2002 for the purposes of investigation and remediation.

Site Description

Location: Cedar Chemical Corporation (Cedar) is an abandoned chemical manufacturing facility located at 49 Phillips Road 311 in West Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas. This site consists of approximately 48 acres located on Highway 242, one mile southwest of the intersection of U.S. Highway 49 and Highway 242. The facility consists of five production units and support facilities, an office building, and a biological treatment system. Active processes were conducted on approximately 20 acres of the site. The remainder of the site contains biological treatment ponds and closed surface impoundments.

Population: The estimated population of West Helena is 8,689.

Setting: Site Structures/Equipment:

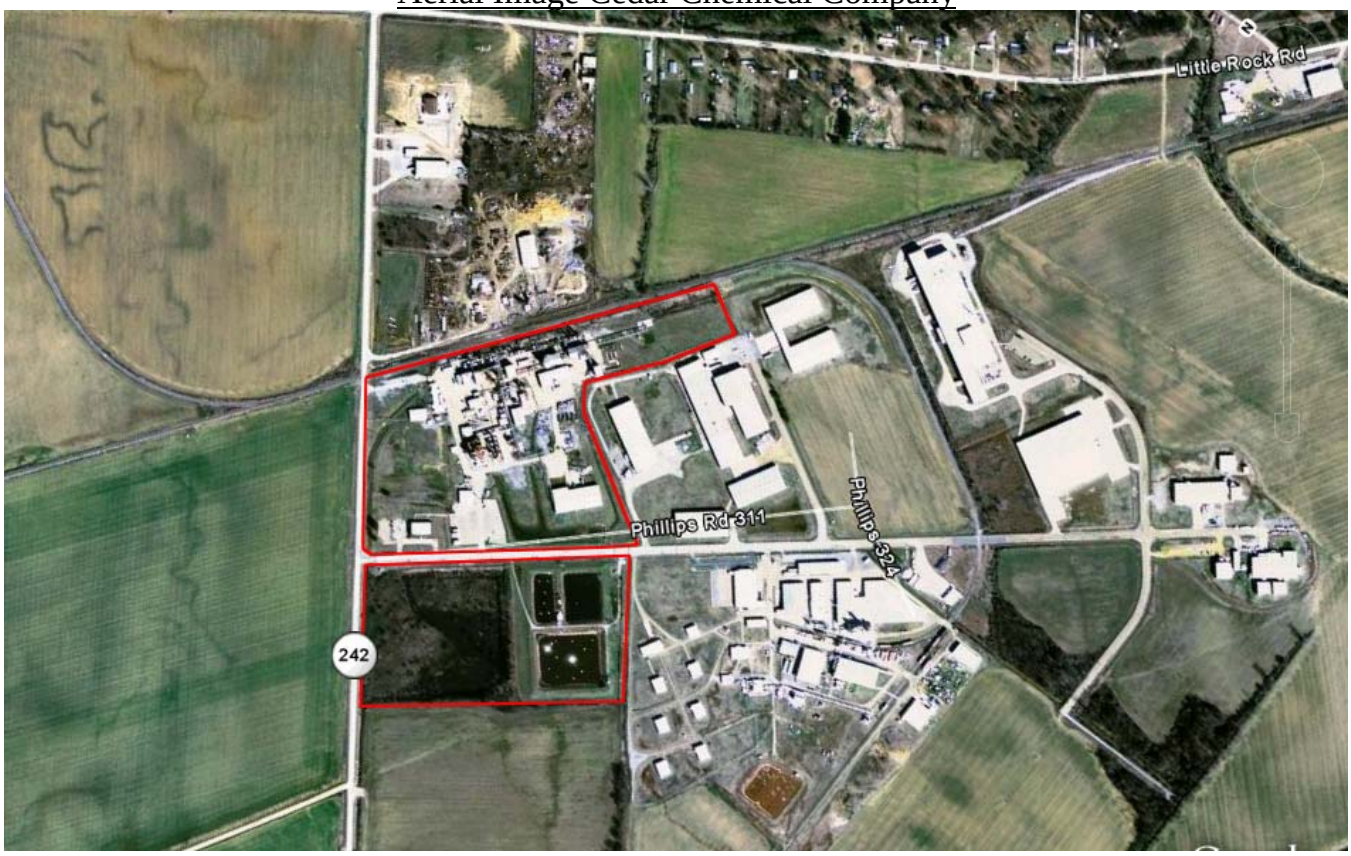
- 15 - 20 enclosed buildings including offices, laboratories, warehouses, packaging, maintenance, scales, and boilers.
- A two hundred to three hundred drum vault constructed as foundation of one particular maintenance building.
- 10 - 15 covered structures (sheds, canopies).
- 100 - 200 above ground storage/process tanks and reaction vessels, with all ancillary equipment and structures.
- Surface water runoff control structure and one (1) lift station.
- Three (3) wastewater ponds (equalization, aeration, polishing) with ancillary equipment and structures.
- One (1) rail spur with loading/unloading facilities (bulk products).

Abandonment Conditions: The owners/operator of the Cedar Chemical Company site cleaned some productions units prior to abandoning the site. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region VI Emergency Response staff cleaned some tanks and piping associated with the production area of the site. EPA's emergency response listed 33 hazardous substances including flammables**,** reactives, and corrosives. The completeness of tank cleanings and residual elements are unknown**.**

Hydrology: The Site is bounded to the north by Caney Creek which flows generally to the west towards the Mississippi River. Surface water in the vicinity of Cedar Chemical drains to the southeast towards two unnamed tributaries which are flowing in a southwesterly direction.

Surface water on the site drains into a storm water retention basin located in the southeast portion of the site. Water from the basin is pumped through a waste water treatment system and discharged through a pipeline to the Mississippi River.

Aerial Image Cedar Chemical Company



Waste and Volumes

Hazardous substances detected in soils at concentrations greater than risk-based screening criteria include Arsenic, Cadmium, Mercury, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Dinoseb, Heptachlor, Methoxychlor, Toxaphene, 3,4-Dichloroaniline, Propanil, Chloroform, 1,2-Dichloroethane, Methylene Chloride, and Pentachlorophenol.

Hazardous substances detected in groundwater at concentrations greater than risk-based screening criteria and/or Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) include Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, 4,4'-DDT, Alpha BHC, Aniline, 4-Chloroaniline, Chlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichlorobenzene, 1,3-Dichlorobenzene, Chloroethane, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, 2,6-Dinitrotoluene, 3,4-Dichloroaniline, 4Chlorozniline, Dinoseb, bis(2-Chloroethyl)ether, bis(2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 4Methyl-2-Pentanone, 2Methylphenol, Acetone, Benzene, Chloroform, Vinyl Chloride, Methylene Chloride, Trichloroethene, 1,1,2Trichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Bromodichloromethane, Bromoform, Dibromochloromethane, and Toluene.

In summary, the surface soils and subsurface soils are contaminated with pesticides, volatile organics, and heavy metals. The onsite surface water bodies and groundwater are contaminated with volatile organics and heavy metals. The sediments are contaminated with pesticides and heavy metals.

Eighty (80) Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) (including approx. 30 sumps and 10 drum/drum storage/drum crushing areas) have been identified onsite to date that are deemed areas of concern.

Health Considerations

The investigation conducted by the Cedar Chemical Company (prior to abandoning the site) concluded significant impacts to surface soils, subsurface soils, surface water and groundwater. The chemicals used onsite in the processes included volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, and metals. These constituents have been detected in the respective media in concentrations greater than background. The levels detected are at concentrations that could continue to contribute to groundwater contamination and at levels which could pose an unacceptable risk to human health and/or the environment under various exposure scenarios.

ADEQ Response Actions

ADEQ has provided 24 hour security at the abandoned site and maintained the on site waste water treatment plant with an operator to handle storm water runoff from the facility.

ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities

Currently, ADEQ is working with potentially responsible parties (PRP's) in developing a new CAO for implementation of the remedies outlined in the final RADD.

Site Contacts

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Information Repository:	None Officially Required	